

Environmental Education



Compendium for Energy Resources

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To The Educator

Dear Educator,

It is our pleasure to present the *Compendium for Energy Resources*, a cooperative project of the California Department of Education and the California Energy Extension Service of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research. This is the first in a series of six compendia in environmental education. Other topics include water resources, integrated waste management, air quality, human communities, and natural communities.

Current educational philosophy is based on the ability of students to actively construct their own knowledge of environmental issues through research, discussion, exploration, and application. This understanding gives students the tools with which to take diverse perspectives, apply their own knowledge, and develop strategies for responsible action.

The materials in the compendium were evaluated not only to meet the educational standards of the frameworks, but to help you locate materials that help students understand the energy choices of today while preparing them to become active participants in making those choices tomorrow. California's increasing commitment to the most efficient use of energy will require millions of individual decisions about the purchase of automobiles, refrigerators, homes, and other energy-consuming products. But today's students must be more than decision makers. They will be responsible for keeping California on the leading edge of new energy technology, a vital part of increased efficiency and diversity. The intelligence and ingenuity of today's students are perhaps our most valuable renewable energy resources.

We offer this *Compendium for Energy Resources* to you and to the children of California.

Sincerely,

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